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54/07/31 Text of Statement by Corrigan After Arrest of Client, Dr. Sam

Cleveland Press

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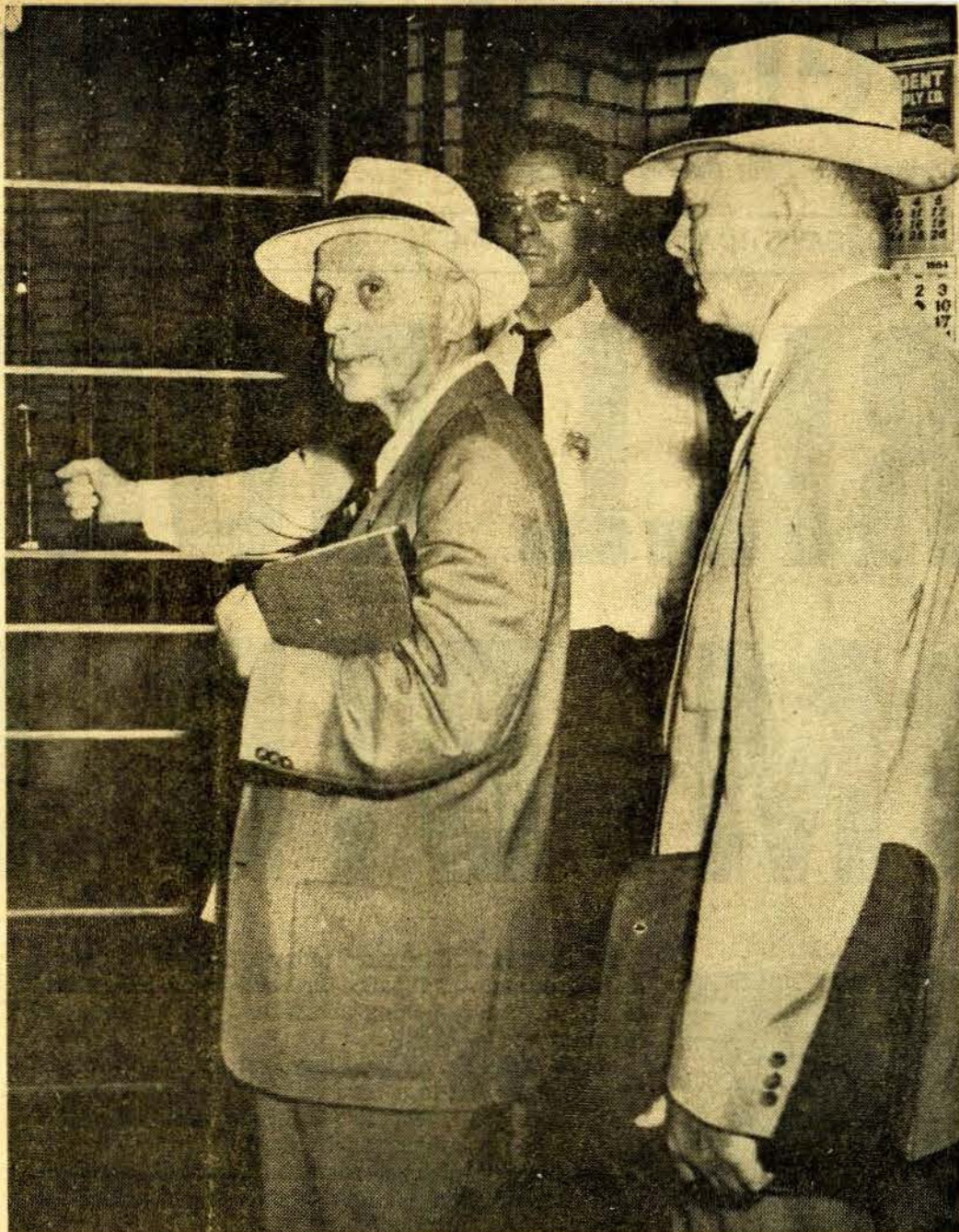
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DR. SHEPPARD'S LAWYERS, William J. Corrigan and Arthur E. Petersilge, were visitors for 40 minutes this morning in the osteopath's cell.

Text of Statement by Corrigan After Arrest of Client, Dr. Sam

Following is the text of a statement given today at County Jail by Attorney William J. Corrigan:

"In my opinion Sam Sheppard is not guilty of the murder of his wife. I suppose that with this action the police and every one else are satisfied that the murder of Mrs. Sheppard has been solved, and that now all efforts to apprehend the person who, in our opinion,

is the murderer, will be abandoned.

"It will therefore necessitate the Sheppards employing their own detective to attempt to run down the murderer.

"At 5 o'clock last night I called the chief of police at Bay Village and gave him two leads involving an individual somewhere between Bay Village and Sandusky. I don't suppose that either of the leads

has been followed out.

"While Dr. Sam Sheppard has been around his home and attending to his work since he was released from the hospital, he was arrested at the unusual hour of 10 o'clock at night.

"On being notified, Mr. Petersilge and myself went to Bay Village. We discovered that everyone had been notified by the authorities except us . . . newspapers, radio, television and the public in the vicinity of where the arrest was made.

"He was taken to the City Hall and behind locked doors, without benefit of counsel—the attendance of his counsel being refused by the authorities who had taken him into custody.

"He was arraigned not before a magistrate but before a councilman.

Knocking Ignored

"When we arrived at the police station we found it locked, and no one would respond to our knocking at the door. We attempted to contact Weygandt, the village solicitor, whatever his first name is, the chief of police, the councilman who issued the warrant. They all refused to answer the telephone.

"After a considerable search we found that the man had been brought to the County Jail. Arriving at the jail we were refused admittance.

"Why criticize Russia?"

"I believe that the councilman who issued the warrant lacked jurisdiction. The mayor is the magistrate under the law and I am informed he was present at the hearing last night."